



Castle Acre Newsletter for week ending 7th November 2025

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Anne Neary
Web: www.narvalleyfederation.co.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's been a funny week with the weather...blustery one minute, rainy the next and we now seem to be in the realms of summer temperatures. I am not sure it is doing anything other than confusing us! Thank you to all our families who send in appropriate clothing as it means we can go out in all weathers. Thankfully the weather held for Rowan's trip to High Lodge. They had a wonderful day and returned wearing crowns with tales of finding a mouse, a fox and The Gruffalo. I'm not sure they found the snake but certainly heard it!

Just to say that it is Remembrance Sunday this weekend. You are welcome to join the service at the church where our Head Pupils will be also. We will be attending the war memorial on Tuesday to pay our respects at 11.

Many thanks for your support,

Emma Spaul



Upcoming Events

See Diary Dates for details.....

Monday 10th Nov - Tamion's Super Fun Time Challenge Club 3.15 - 4.15pm, week 2 of 7.

Tuesday 11th Nov - ICS Football Club, 3.15 - 4.15pm, week 2 of 7.

Wednesday 12th Nov - ICS Multi- Sports Club, 3.15 - 4.15pm, week 2 of 7.

Thursday 13th Nov - ICS Outdoor Adventures Club, 3.15 - 4.15pm, week 2 of 7.

Friday 14th Nov - Children in Need Day -

The Friends Autumn Quiz & Supper Fundraiser at Castle Acre Village Hall, see poster for full details or speak with Libby Firth (Chair) to book: 07825229345

Reminders and Information.....



School Uniform

Please remember to put your child's name in their school uniform so we can reunite them with misplaced items as quickly as possible. If there is no name in items found they will initially go to our Lost Property box in the school office.

We have lots of pre-owned nearly-new uniform in school. You can buy this for £1 per item or you can swap it for a donation, and all monies paid go to our fundraising group, The Friends of Castle Acre Primary. Please enquire at the school office, thank you.

Payments on Arbor

We understand that sometimes it's difficult to keep track of payments for various events. However, if we do not receive all of the payments in advance for clubs and trips, it means we are unable to cover the cost of them which could affect having them in the future. We appreciate your support as always. If we do not make the income we are predicted to - ie if not every parent pays - then it could mean losing things from next year's budget that the children have had this year, so please do your bit and pay. Thank you.

Before School Care is available Mon - Fri from 8am to 8.40am at £2 per session.

After School Care is available Mon - Fri 3.10pm to 4.30pm at £6 per session.

Tuck Shop is available Wednesday and Friday morning break - 40p per day.

Military families.....

Military Club with Mrs Jary is every Thursday lunchtime at Narborough Primary. Come along, eat your lunch, bring a friend and chat! In future we will be 'meeting' online with our other service children at Castle Acre and Sporle.

We're proud of our Service personnel and proud to support our service families. We have strong links with the RAF base and look forward to our involvement in events.

Attendance Awards w/e 7/11/2025

Class	%
Rowan	94.44
Whitebeam	96.67
Oak	92.86

The winner of the Attendance Award this week is Whitebeam Class, well done! Please do better next week Rowan and Oak.

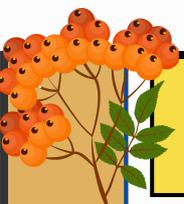




AWARDS

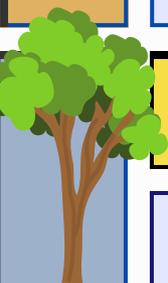


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Rowan Class

Award	Goes to...	For..... 
Reader of the week 	Mia	For super fred talk during phonics and for using her fingers to support spelling.
Writer of the week	Tobias	For a fabulous descriptive narrative. 
Mathematician of the week	Jaxon	For using previously taught skills to support him with his current learning.
Shining Light	Ivy Amelie	For settling in to Rowan Class really well and demonstrating many of our school values. For super listening and following instructions.



Whitebeam Class

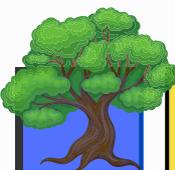
Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Mila	for reading with greater fluency
Writer of the week	Ivar	for writing with greater independence
Mathematician of the week 	Stanley Barker	for working well in all areas of maths
Shining Light	Florence Ava	for demonstrating all of our school values for demonstrating the values of courage and hope particularly in maths
Tackling Tables 	Ella Skyla	Blue phase superstar Purple phase subtraction missing numbers
Reads at home	Ella Ivy Stan	25 reads 25 reads 10 reads 



AWARDS



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Oak Class

Award	Goes to...	For..... 
Reader of the week	Isla	the confidence to always read to the class.
Writer of the week 	Libby	wonderfully detailed writing, showing off her skills.
Mathematician of the week	Darcy C	brilliant speedy addition! 
Shining Light 	Oscar Alexander Brody	impressive enthusiasm throughout our learning. creativity and inventiveness while giving answers in class. always trying his best, even with tricky tasks.
Reading Stars	Brianna Lazenby Alexander Holly Oliver P	10 reads - blue star. 10 reads - blue star and 25 reads - red star. 25 reads - red star. 50 reads - bronze star. 50 reads - bronze star.
Tackling Tables		



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Help with online safety::



The CEOP website, run by the National Crime Prevention agency, gives helpful advice about when and how to report your concern.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Get-help/Reporting-an-incident/>



See these links for further information, games and tips:

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/4_7/
https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/
<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>



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Safeguarding.....

Have a look at [this article](#) about reading news online and the impact on children and young people:

Healthy mind, healthy body

I found a very interesting piece of research from Loughborough University this week, which links absence from school and children's mental health.

Absences from school contribute significantly to children experiencing mental health issues (measured as hospital attendance with a mental health condition diagnosis or stress-related presentation)

The probability of a child experiencing mental ill health rises from 1.82% with no absence to 3.7% with 20% absence, and to 5.27% with 30% absence

The impact is greater for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) support, chronic health conditions, or an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan

The relationship is two-way: children with a mental health condition miss almost three times more school (16% of sessions) than those without (6%)

Message from the Executive Headteacher....



Following our attendance monitoring letters from before half-term, we want to thank the vast majority of our families whose children's attendance is excellent (96%+). Just a plea regarding holidays - please firstly try and avoid term-time holidays, try and reduce the number of days missed to three or less and try and cross over a weekend to limit the impact on that week's work. Please also ensure that we know about these because otherwise the children are in such an awkward position, and this is not fair for them. We can authorise in certain circumstances and are far more likely to do so if you have carried out the above steps. The impact of term-time holidays, particularly missing most of a week, is huge - I checked this half-term, and of the children whose attendance is classed as Persistent Absenteeism due to a holiday, are below where they need to be in their learning. This means holidays in term time, particularly where a family does this every year, are preventing the children achieving well. Please think about this before you book term-time holidays,

Don't forget the online safety training package for Parents/Carers that we've bought you all:

You can login [here](#).

Username: narvalley.parents
Password: MidnightBrainsIdeally90

Friends of Castle Acre School (FOCAS).....

The Friends have organised for the children to design their own Christmas cards which parents will be able to order at the start of December. Part of the funds raised from the orders will go to the school. More information to come!

Fri NOV 14th Autumn QUIZ- CA village hall.
Please do come along and book a table to be part of the Quiz, you can choose to order fish and chips on the night too! BYO drinks and snacks :) (text Libby on 07825229345).
If you can't make it then please do donate a raffle prize. This is our only fundraiser until the New Year so all efforts hugely appreciated.

Prayer for the Week.....

Dear God

Thank you for all the wonderful teachers we have in our Federation

Amen

By: Brody G

Thank you as always for your support and partnership,

Head of School
Castle Acre C of E Primary Academy

Executive Headteacher
Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies
Castle Acre, Narborough and Sporle C of E Primary Academy